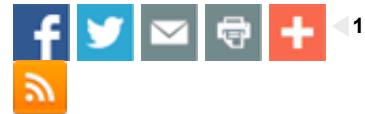


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## Iowa Invitation to Qualify Contributes to FirstNet Teaming List

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The Iowa Communications Network (ICN) pre-qualified 123 vendors under an invitation to qualify (ITQ) released Dec. 31 to indicate Iowa vendors' interest in subcontracting and partnering with other vendors involved with the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet).

ICN received 135 responses from vendors by the Jan. 15 deadline, said Jontell Harris with the Iowa FirstNet Broadband Committee.

The ITQ's scope was to allow vendors to "be considered for participation by national respondents to the FirstNet request for proposals (RFP) and that desire to be listed and endorsed by the Iowa FirstNet Broadband Committee in the FirstNet teaming list."

FirstNet March 17 finalized its teaming list, which was offered as a courtesy option for potential offerors and subcontractors to promote partnering for the nationwide public-safety broadband network (NPSBN). However, if a company is not on the list, it can still participate and pursue its own teaming efforts.

"The ICN was solely providing a platform for Iowa-based organizations to have their information included in the list," Harris said. "The ITQ process did not affect vendors wanting to supply services, devices, etc., to FirstNet, and the ICN is not responsible for any evaluation or vendor selection related to FirstNet."

Iowa was the only state to coordinate and bundle submissions to the FirstNet teaming list, said a FirstNet spokeswoman.

"This step was taken to raise the visibility of Iowa private sector telecommunications providers to the eye sight of prime respondents who could collaborate with telecommunications providers within Iowa in answer to the FirstNet Iowa State Plan," said Ric Lombard, ICN executive director.

The FirstNet teaming list can be found [here](#).

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